

Art Unit: 2617

DETAILED ACTION

Art Unit- Location

1. The Art Unit location of your application in the USPTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Art Unit 2617.

2. This Action is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on 07/18/2008. Claims 1-16 are allowed in the present application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Lance Lieberman on 10/28/2008.

4. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

On lines 2, 5 and 6 of claim 1 and lines 1 and 6 of claim 9, "type" has been deleted after "Internet".

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-16 are allowed.

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Consider claims 1 and 9, the prior art of record (**US 6049712 A**) discloses using DTMF sequence in order to authenticate a user of a fixed station by means of generating the DTMF sequence from a digital device such as cellular or cordless phone. Another related art, Patent Application (**US 20030172272 A1**), discloses a system for authenticating a user of a terminal connected to the Internet by means of using a confirmation pass code sent to the user's mobile device via a secure channel from an authentication server. Another related art, Patent (**US 7231025 B2**), a portable terminal generates a wave file, which is then played to an external speaker using DTMF code. This code is then sent to an authentication unit, which validates the code and authenticates a remote person based on the received code. In another related art, Patent (**US 6782080 B2**), the user's right can be verified by means of a mobile identification number and a voice print of the user seeking access to a telecommunication device.

However, after the amended claims, applicant's remarks have been considered and found to be persuasive. In agreement with the applicant's remarks, the prior arts, either alone or in combination, failed to disclose the terminal downloading via said Internet network a digital code from said authentication unit; said mobile equipment sending a sound signal to said authentication unit, the sound signal being generated by

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the terminal on the basis of said downloaded digital code; and authenticating said user on the basis of the sound signal received by the authentication unit via said mobile communications channel and of an identifier of said mobile equipment.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Marcos Batista, whose telephone number is (571) 270-5209. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Rafael Pérez-Gutiérrez can be reached at (571) 272-7915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you

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have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 703-305-3028.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/customer service whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Marcos Batista
/M. B./

/Rafael Pérez-Gutiérrez/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617

10/29/2008